

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-19. (previously cancelled)

20-22. (cancelled)

23. (previously presented) Electro-optical connector module according to claim 30, which comprises a least three substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets that are substantially square or rectangular and wherein the first and the second sheet are connected to adjacent sides of the third sheet by means of a flexible sheet material.

24. (cancelled)

25. (previously presented) Electro-optical connector module according to claim 30, which comprises a hood capable of shielding said module against electromagnetic interference.

26. (previously presented) Electro-optical connector module according claim 30, wherein the electrical connection section comprises a housing of an insulating material for accommodating one or more contact elements and wherein the sheets are attached to the said housing.

27. (previously presented) Electro-optical connector module according to claim 26, wherein the housing comprises building blocks to which a sheet is attached.

28. (cancelled)

29. (previously presented) Method according to claim 31, further comprising the step of constructing the electrical connection section to comprise a housing of an insulating material for accommodating one or more contact elements, said housing being further constructed to comprise building blocks and wherein at least some of the building blocks are attached to corresponding sheets prior to the folding of the sheets.

30. (currently amended) Electro-optical connector module comprising:

an optical connection section for receiving and/or transmitting optical signals;

an electrical connection section for receiving and/or transmitting electrical signals;

a-said module comprising at least two substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets, at least one optical transmitter circuit, at least one optical receiver circuit and at least two electro-optical converters for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals and vice versa, wherein the optical transmitter circuit and a first converter are mounted on a the first sheet and the optical receiver circuit and a second converter are mounted on a the second sheet, wherein the sheets are connected by means of a flexible sheet material; and

wherein a component for optical input and/or output is provided on the connecting flexible sheet material and wherein the connecting flexible sheet material can also comprise a rigid part.

31. (previously presented) A method of making an electro-optical connector module, the module having at least two substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets, at least one optical transmitter circuit, at least one optical receiver circuit and at least two electro-optical converters for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals and vice versa, said method comprising the steps of:

mounting at least one optical transmitter circuit and a first of said electro-optical converters on one of the electrical insulating sheets;

mounting a second one of said electro-optical converters on the other of said electrical insulating sheets;

connecting said electrical insulating sheets by means of a flexible sheet material;

folding the sheets and fixing the position of the sheets with respect to one another; and

providing a component for optical input and/or output on the connecting flexible sheet material and wherein the connecting flexible sheet material can also comprise a rigid part.